

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a shared window for
2 entering commands into a local computer system, wherein the shared window can
3 be shared with a remote user who can input data into the shared window from a
4 remote computer system subject to access control, the method comprising:
5 receiving a command from the remote user on the remote computer
6 | system at run time;
7 wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in
8 order to operate the local computer system;
9 passing the command through a filtering process;
10 if the command passes the filtering process, executing the command on
11 the local computer system;
12 displaying the command on the shared window on the local computer
13 | system so that a local user can view the command; ~~and~~
14 allowing the command to be displayed on a remote copy of the shared
15 window on the remote computer system, so that the remote user can view the
16 command;
17 | ~~wherein permission to execute the command on the local computer system~~
18 | ~~is granted on a per command basis based on an approval received from a user of~~
19 | ~~the local computer system~~ allowing a user of the local computer system to approve
20 | the command received from the remote user at run time; and
21 | if the user of the local computer approves the command, allowing the
22 | command to execute on the local computer system;
23 | otherwise, not allowing the command to execute on the local computer.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein if the shared window is in an
2 approval mode, the filtering process involves:
3 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
4 command; and
5 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
6 filtering process.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared
2 window is in a view-only mode, allowing no commands received from the remote
3 user to pass the filtering process.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared
2 window is in an execute mode, allowing all commands received from the remote
3 user to pass the filtering process.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared
2 window is in a safe command mode, allowing commands from a pre-specified list
3 of safe commands to pass the filtering process.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising, if the shared
2 window is in a safe command mode and the command is not from the pre-
3 specified list of safe commands:
4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and
6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
7 filtering process.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein commands from different
2 users appear in different colors on the shared window.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein allowing the command to be
2 displayed on the remote copy of the shared window on the remote computer
3 system involves sending an update for the shared window from the local computer
4 system to the remote computer system, wherein the update includes the command.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a
2 second command from a second remote user on a second remote computer
3 system.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the filtering process takes
2 place on at least one of:
3 the remote computer system;
4 the local computer system; and
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the
6 local computer system.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the command is in the form
2 of character input.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the command is in the form
2 of an action applied to a graphical user interface.

1 13. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a
3 method for providing a shared window for entering commands into a local
4 computer system, wherein the shared window can be shared with a remote user
5 who can input data into the shared window from a remote computer system
6 subject to access control, the method comprising:

7 receiving a command from the remote user on the remote computer
8 system at run time;
9 wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in
10 order to operate the local computer system;
11 passing the command through a filtering process;
12 if the command passes the filtering process, executing the command on
13 the local computer system;
14 displaying the command on the shared window on the local computer
15 system so that a local user can view the command; ~~and~~
16 allowing the command to be displayed on a remote copy of the shared
17 window on the remote computer system, so that the remote user can view the
18 command;
19 ~~wherein permission to execute the command on the local computer system~~
20 ~~is granted on a per command basis based on an approval received from a user of~~
21 ~~the local computer system~~ allowing a user of the local computer system to approve
22 the command received from the remote user at run time; and
23 if the user of the local computer approves the command, allowing the
24 command to execute on the local computer system;
25 otherwise, not allowing the command to execute on the local computer.

1 14. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in an approval mode, the filtering process
3 involves:
4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and
6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
7 filtering process.

1 15. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in a view-only mode, no commands received
3 from the remote user are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 16. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in an execute mode, all commands received from
3 the remote user are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 17. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in a safe command mode, commands from a pre-
3 specified list of safe commands are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 18. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 17,
2 wherein if the shared window is in a safe command mode and the command is not
3 from the pre-specified list of safe commands, the method further comprises:
4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and
6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
7 filtering process.

1 19. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein commands from different users appear in different colors on the shared
3 window.

1 20. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein allowing the command to be displayed on the remote copy of the shared
3 window on the remote computer system involves sending an update for the shared
4 window from the local computer system to the remote computer system, wherein
5 the update includes the command.

1 21. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the method further comprises receiving a second command from a
3 second remote user on a second remote computer system.

1 22. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the filtering process takes place on at least one of:
3 the remote computer system;
4 the local computer system; and
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the
6 local computer system.

1 23. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the command is in the form of character input.

1 24. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the command is in the form of an action applied to a graphical user
3 interface.

1 25. (Currently amended) An apparatus that provides a shared window for
2 entering commands into a local computer system, wherein the shared window can
3 be shared with a remote user who can input data into the shared window from a
4 remote computer system subject to access control, the apparatus comprising:
5 a receiving mechanism that is configured to receive a command from the
6 remote user on the remote computer system at run time;
7 wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in
8 order to operate the local computer system;
9 a filtering mechanism that is configured to pass the command through a
10 filtering process, and to execute the command on the local computer system if the
11 command passes the filtering process; and

12 a display mechanism that is configured to display the command on the
13 shared window on the local computer system so that a local user can view the
14 command;
15 wherein the display mechanism is configured to allow the command to be
16 displayed on a remote copy of the shared window on the remote computer system,
17 so that the remote user can view the command;
18 ~~wherein permission to execute the command on the local computer system~~
19 ~~is granted on a per-command basis based on an approval received from a user of~~
20 ~~the local computer system~~ wherein the filtering mechanism is further configured to
21 allow a user of the local computer system to approve the command received from
22 the remote user at run time;
23 wherein the filtering mechanism is further configured to allow the
24 command to execute on the local computer system if the user of the local
25 computer approves the command; and
26 wherein the filtering mechanism is further configured to not allow the
27 command to execute on the local computer system if the user of the local
28 computer does not approve the command.

1 26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is
2 in an approval mode, the filtering mechanism is configured to:
3 allow the local user of the local computer system to approve the
4 command; and to
5 allow the command to pass the filtering process if the local user approves
6 the command.

1 27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is
2 in a view-only mode, no commands received from the remote user are allowed to
3 pass the filtering process.

1 28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is
2 in an execute mode, all commands received from the remote user are allowed to
3 pass the filtering process.

1 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is
2 in a safe command mode, commands from a pre-specified list of safe commands
3 are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein if the
2 shared window is in a safe command mode and the command is not from the pre-
3 specified list of safe commands, the filtering mechanism is configured to:
4 allow the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and
6 allow the command to pass the filtering process if the local user approves
7 the command.

1 31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the display mechanism
2 is configured to display commands from different users in different colors on the
3 shared window.

1 32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the display mechanism
2 is configured to send an update for the shared window from the local computer
3 system to the remote computer system, wherein the update includes the command.

1 33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the receiving
2 mechanism is configured to receive a second command from a second remote user
3 on a second remote computer system.

1 34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the filtering mechanism
2 is located on at least one of:
3 the remote computer system;
4 the local computer system; and
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the
6 local computer system.

1 35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the command is in the
2 form of character input.

1 36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the command is in the
2 form of an action applied to a graphical user interface.